under compulsory licensing to ensure that the provisions of the existing Drug Policy 1986 are incorporated while giving approval for manufacture of drugs. This has been done pending the review of the Drug Policy which is expected to be finalised soon.

Subsidy dues of the fertilier industry

738. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the accumulated subsidy dues of the fertilizer industry in the country at the end of 1991 and at the end of March, 1992;

(b) what are the reasons for accumulation of subsidy dues;

(c) what is its overall impact on the performance of the fertilizer industry; and

(d) what remedial steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The accumulated outstanding subsidy dues as per the claims submitted by the fertilizer units were Rs. 461.50 crores at the end of December, 1991 and Rs. 124.18 crores at the end of March, 1992.

(b) The dues were outstanding at the end of December, 1992 due to constraint of funds and non-submssion of some essential documents by the units. The dues were outstanding at the end of March, 1992 due to constraint of funds.

(c) The delay in release of subsidy affected the liquidity position of the concerned units.

(d) Within the available budgetary allocations, efforts are continuously made to clear the subsidy dues as expeditiously as possible.

Retrieving the Fertilizer Corporation of India

739. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) steps being taken or propose to be taken by Government to retrieve "The Fertilizer Corporation of India", from its chronical sickness;

(b) the loss incurred by corporation during 1986-87 to 1991-92;

(c) the total strength of labourers and total number of officials;

(d) the annual value of production of the Corporation (yearwise figures) from 1986-87 to 1991-92; and

(e) how the coal based Ramo Gund and Talcher units are functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) have submitted detailed proposals regarding rehabilitation/revamp of their various units including financial restructuring. The final outcome of these proposals would, however, depend on their financial and technical viability, allocation of the funds through budgetary sources, as also deliberations of the Tripartite Committee on Chemicals Industry. The company has also referred their case to BIFR. The company hss been given extra allowance in consumption norms and capacity utilisation in respect of its Ramagundam and Talcher units in view of the vintage of these plants. The company is also being paid its subsidy dues regularly.